MiSP Weather Data Assessment L1

Name _____

Date

You worked with data in this unit that showed that as altitude increases, air temperature decreases. When air cools as it rises, it will eventually reach its dew point temperature, water vapor will condense (become liquid water), and clouds (instead of dew) will form. Data for this has been collected so that a person can estimate the height of cumulus clouds if the air temperature and dew point at the Earth's surface are known.

This chart shows the height of clouds when it is 30°C with various dew points:

| Dew Point °C | Height of Cumulus Clouds (meters) |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| 0 | 3800 |
| 3 | 3400 |
| 6 | 3000 |
| 9 | 2600 |
| 12 | 2300 |
| 15 | 1900 |
| 18 | 1500 |
| 21 | 1100 |

The data was graphed with a best-fit line:



| 1a. | What happens | to cloud | height as | dew | point incre | ases? |
|-----|--------------|----------|-----------|-----|-------------|-------|
|-----|--------------|----------|-----------|-----|-------------|-------|

| 1b | If clouds form at 2300 meters or | n a day when the | surface air | temperature is | 30°C and the de | W |
|----|------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------------|---|
| | point is 12°C, what is the air tem | perature at 2300 | meters? | | | |

1c. Why does cloud height change as dew point increases?

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2. Predict the cloud height when the dew point (air temperature 30°C) is:

27°C_____

10°C_____

